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Special Issue on Analysis of Short Texts on the Web

The huge volume of information available on the Web is continuously growing. There is great interest in analyzing this information in order to fulfil specific user needs. The challenges that researchers must deal with when analyzing the content of Web pages are related to the fact that quite often they are written in natural language, and very often without any specific helpful structure. In other words, it is a problem of processing almost pure raw data, often just short texts which make the task quite challenging. In fact, short texts typically contain a small number of words whose absolute frequency is relatively low in comparison with their frequency in long documents. This makes tasks such as text categorization harder.

The exponential growth in the number of Web documents furnishes abundant proof of the necessity of analyzing short texts. For instance, digital libraries and Web-based repositories of scientific and technical information provide free access only to abstracts and not to the full texts of the documents. News, document titles, snippets, FAQs, chats, abstracts etc. are some examples of the high volume of short texts available on the Web.

With the so-called Web 2.0, the largest communication and collaborative platform, new short texts are created on daily basis as on-line evaluations of commercial products, posts of blogs or comments in social networks. Twitter, for instance, is a new successful social network technology of the Web 2.0 genre which is used by millions of people and thousands of companies to publish very short messages with the purpose of sharing experiences and/or opinions about a product or service. Due to the huge amount of information available in social media, there is a clear need for mining useful information from these messages in order to discover knowledge about the collective thinking of the crowds. Tweet analysis is considered to be potentially very important because comments, opinions, suggestions and complaints can be used to define new marketing strategies or to obtain information on companies' reputation.

In recent years there has been sufficient interest from the computational linguistics community on the efficient analysis of short texts. In fact, several tracks have been organized in the framework of the different evaluation frameworks at TREC (blog and Web tracks), CLEF (Web people search laboratory), NTCIR (opinion analysis pilot task), INEX (ad-hoc passage retrieval task), ROMIP (track on news clustering), and FIRE (ad-hoc task on retrieval from technical forums and mailing lists).

This special issue aims to collect state-of-the-art contributions to the development and use of techniques for the analysis of short texts on the Web, with special emphasis on resources of the collaborative platform of the Web 2.0. Thus, we welcome contributions that include, but are not limited to, resources of short texts such as posts of blogs, tweets, text messages, etc, as well as innovative techniques using linguistic resources for improved understanding of mono or multi-lingual short texts.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

We are particularly interested in articles showing the benefits of using such resources and techniques that include, but not limited to, the following topics:

- *Categorization of short texts*
- *Cross-lingual short text mining on the Web*
- *Analysis of weblogs, tweets, text messages and snippets*
- *Knowledge discovery from Web 2.0*
- *Opinion mining in social media*
- *Enterprise 2.0 and market analysis*
- *Automatic generation of collaborative linguistic resources*
- *Evaluation of techniques and short text resources*

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SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- For submission guidelines please see: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/lrev/default.asp>
- For guidelines for formatting please see: <http://www.springer.com/education+%26+language/linguistics/journal/10579>
- For the abstract submission and additional information, contact David Pinto (dpinto@cs.buap.mx)

IMPORTANT DATES

- Submission deadline (abstract): **March 15, 2011**
- Submission deadline (full paper): **March 31, 2011**
- First-round reviews due: **May 31, 2011**
- Revised versions due: **July 15, 2011**
- Second-round reviews due: **September 15, 2011**
- Final versions due: **October 31, 2011**
- Special issue publication: **Sometime in 2012**

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